

Introduced by Senator WigginsFebruary 21, 2008

An act to amend Section 768 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to the Public Utilities Commission.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1512, as introduced, Wiggins. Public Utilities Commission: general authority.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities and can establish its own procedures, subject to statutory limitations or directions and constitutional requirements of due process. Existing law authorizes the commission, after a hearing, to require every public utility to construct, maintain, and operate utility facilities in a manner so as to promote and safeguard the health and safety of its employees, customers, and the public.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to those provisions of law.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 768 of the Public Utilities Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 768. ~~The commission may, after a hearing,~~ (a) *The commission*
- 4 *may do all of the following:*
- 5 (1) *After a hearing,* require every public utility to construct,
- 6 maintain, and operate its line, plant, system, equipment, apparatus,
- 7 tracks, and premises in a manner so as to promote and safeguard

1 the health and safety of its employees, passengers, customers, and
2 the public. ~~The commission may prescribe, among~~
3 (2) *Prescribe, among* other things, the installation, use,
4 maintenance, and operation of appropriate safety or other devices
5 or appliances, including interlocking and other protective devices
6 at grade crossings or junctions and block or other systems of
7 signaling. ~~The commission may establish uniform~~
8 (3) *Establish uniform* or other standards of construction and
9 equipment, and require the performance of any other act which
10 the health or safety of its employees, passengers, customers, or
11 the public may demand. ~~The~~
12 (b) *The* Department of the California Highway Patrol shall have
13 the primary responsibility for the regulation of the safety of
14 operation of passenger stage corporations. The commission shall
15 cooperate with the Department of the California Highway Patrol
16 to ensure safe operation of these carriers.